IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DAVID J. PARINS et al. Applicant:

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Title:

DISTAL ASSEMBLY FOR A MEDICAL DEVICE

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

MAIL STOP: AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper(s) is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below

JANUARY 5, 2007 Thu H. Le-To Date

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Official Action of the Examiner mailed November 14, 2006, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on February 14, 2007. This paper is filed within the set priority period for response such that no extension of time is necessary.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.